

# American Opinions of Global Warming

1. Have you ever heard of global warming?

- <sub>1</sub> Yes  
 <sub>2</sub> No → (Skip to question 37 on page 10)



**PLEASE CONSIDER YOUR FEELINGS ABOUT "GLOBAL WARMING."**

2. Do you have any negative feelings about global warming? (Please mark an X in the box next to your answer.)

- <sub>1</sub> Yes →  
 <sub>2</sub> No

a) How strong are your negative feelings? (Circle the number that best reflects the strength of your feelings.)

<u>-1</u>	-2	-3	-4	<u>-5</u>
Slightly Negative				Very Negative

3. Do you have any positive feelings about global warming?

- <sub>1</sub> Yes →  
 <sub>2</sub> No

a) How strong are your positive feelings? (Circle the number that best reflects the strength of your feelings.)

<u>-1</u>	-2	-3	-4	<u>-5</u>
Slightly Positive				Very Positive

4. When you hear the words "global warming," what is the first thought or image that comes to mind?

First thought or image: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Still thinking about "global warming," what is the next thought or image that comes to mind?

Second thought or image: \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is the third thought or image that comes to mind when you think of "global warming"?

Third thought or image: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Please go back to the answer you wrote for question 4 -- your first thought or image. How strong are your negative or positive feelings about it? (Circle the number that best reflects the strength of your feelings.)

-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5
Very Negative Feelings					Very Positive Feelings				

8. Now go back to the answer you wrote for question 5 -- your second thought or image. How strong are your negative or positive feelings about it?

-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5
Very Negative Feelings					Very Positive Feelings				

9. Now go back to answer 6. How strong are your negative or positive feelings about it?

-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5
Very Negative Feelings					Very Positive Feelings				

10. Generally speaking, do you think global warming is a problem?

- <sub>1</sub> Yes →
- <sub>2</sub> No
- <sub>3</sub> Don't know

a) Have you thought about how to solve global warming?

- <sub>1</sub> Yes
- <sub>2</sub> No

b) Do you know some actions that will help solve global warming?

- <sub>1</sub> Yes
- <sub>2</sub> No

11. How concerned are you about global warming?

- <sub>1</sub> Not at all concerned
- <sub>2</sub> Not very concerned
- <sub>3</sub> Somewhat concerned
- <sub>4</sub> Very concerned

12. Now please think about the human health effects of global warming. (Please circle the answer corresponding to your best estimate.)

Worldwide, how many people do you think...

a) <u>currently</u> die each year due to global warming?	None	Hundreds	Thousands	Millions	Don't know
b) are <u>currently</u> injured or become ill each year due to global warming?	None	Hundreds	Thousands	Millions	Don't know
c) will die each year <u>50 years from now</u> due to global warming?	None	Hundreds	Thousands	Millions	Don't know
d) will be injured or become ill each year <u>50 years from now</u> due to global warming?	None	Hundreds	Thousands	Millions	Don't know

13. How likely do you think it is that each of the following will occur during the next 50 years due to global warming?

	<u>Very Unlikely</u>	<u>Somewhat Unlikely</u>	<u>Somewhat Likely</u>	<u>Very Likely</u>
a) Worldwide, many people's standard of living will decrease.	1	2	3	4
b) Worldwide water shortages will occur.	1	2	3	4
c) Increased rates of serious disease worldwide.	1	2	3	4
d) My standard of living will decrease.	1	2	3	4
e) Water shortages will occur where I live.	1	2	3	4
f) My chance of getting a serious disease will increase.	1	2	3	4

14. How serious of a threat do you believe global warming is to non-human nature?

- 1 Not at all serious
- 2 Not very serious
- 3 Somewhat serious
- 4 Very serious

15. Which one of the following are you most concerned about? (choose one)

The impacts of global warming on...

- 1 you and your family
- 2 your local community
- 3 the United States as a whole
- 4 people all over the world
- 5 non-human nature
- 6 not at all concerned

16. How serious are the current impacts of global warming around the world?

- <sub>1</sub> Not at all serious
- <sub>2</sub> Not very serious
- <sub>3</sub> Somewhat serious
- <sub>4</sub> Very serious

17. Which of the following directly contributes to global warming?

- | <u>Yes</u>               | <u>No</u>                |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | a) Nuclear power plants                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | b) Damage to the ozone layer             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | c) Deforestation                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | d) Burning fossil fuels (oil, gas, coal) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | e) Use of aerosol spray cans             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | f) Overpopulation                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | g) Cows                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | h) Toxic wastes (nuclear, chemical)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | i) Rice fields                           |

18. Of the causes you checked “yes”, which one do you think contributes most to global warming? (Please write the letter of your answer below.)

Letter: \_\_\_\_\_

19. Please indicate whether or not each of the following actions is a direct way to reduce or prevent global warming.

- | <u>Yes</u>               | <u>No</u>                |   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | a) Driving less   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | b) Increasing energy efficiency                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | c) Banning aerosol spray cans   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | d) Planting trees   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | e) Reducing toxic wastes (nuclear, chemical)                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | f) Limiting population growth worldwide                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | g) Replacing fossil fuels with renewable energies (wind, solar, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | h) Recycling  |

20. Of the actions you checked “yes”, which one do you think would be the most effective in reducing or preventing global warming?

Letter: \_\_\_\_\_

**21. Have you done any of the following things because you are concerned about global warming? (If you have done any of these things for another reason, check the “No” box.)**

- | <u>Yes</u>               | <u>No</u>                |   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>a)</b> Used energy-efficiency as a selection criterion when buying a light bulb, a household appliance, or a motor vehicle.                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>b)</b> Installed insulation or weatherized your home or apartment.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>c)</b> Purchased energy from an alternative source, such as wind or solar power.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>d)</b> Used alternative forms of transportation (rail, car-pools, walking, bicycling, etc.) instead of driving.                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>e)</b> Chosen not to buy an aerosol spray can.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>f)</b> Planted a tree.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>g)</b> Joined, donated money to, or volunteered with an organization working on issues related to global warming.                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>h)</b> Made your views on global warming clear to politicians (by writing letters, telephoning, sending e-mails, signing petitions, etc.). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>i)</b> Talked to family, friends, or colleagues about how to reduce or prevent global warming.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>j)</b> Other _____   |

**22. How strongly do you trust or distrust the following groups to tell you the truth about global warming?**

	<b>Strongly Distrust</b>	<b>Somewhat Distrust</b>	<b>Somewhat Trust</b>	<b>Strongly Trust</b>
<b>a)</b> Corporations	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
<b>b)</b> National government	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
<b>c)</b> Scientists and doctors	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
<b>d)</b> Religious organizations	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
<b>e)</b> Family and friends	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
<b>f)</b> Environmental organizations	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
<b>g)</b> Media	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>

**B** *IN THIS SECTION, PLEASE TELL US YOUR OPINIONS ON SEVERAL PROPOSED GLOBAL WARMING POLICIES.*

**23. Do you think the United States should reduce its emissions of the greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane, etc.) that are said to cause global warming?**

- 1* Definitely yes
- 2* Probably yes
- 3* Probably no
- 4* Definitely no

**24. In 1997, the United States and other developed countries made an agreement called the Kyoto Protocol to collectively reduce their emissions of greenhouse gases. The United States agreed to reduce its emissions by 7% by the year 2010. How much do you favor or oppose this agreement?**

- <sub>1</sub> Strongly favor
- <sub>2</sub> Somewhat favor
- <sub>3</sub> Somewhat oppose
- <sub>4</sub> Strongly oppose

**25. The United States currently emits about 20% of the world's total greenhouse gases. People disagree whether the U.S. should reduce greenhouse gas emissions on its own, or make reductions only if other countries do too. Which of the following statements comes closest to your own point of view?**

**The United States should reduce its emissions...**

- <sub>1</sub> regardless of what other countries do.
- <sub>2</sub> only if all other industrialized countries reduce their emissions.
- <sub>3</sub> only if all other industrialized and all less-developed countries reduce their emissions.
- <sub>4</sub> The United States should not reduce its emissions.
- <sub>5</sub> Don't know.

**26. One controversial proposal to solve global warming is to create an international market in greenhouse gases. In this system, all countries agree to a global cap on emissions. Each country then gets the right to emit a portion of this global amount. If a country emits more than its portion, it must buy more emission rights from other countries or else pay stiff fines.**

**In principle, how much do you support or oppose an international market that allows countries to buy and sell greenhouse gases?**

- <sub>1</sub> Strongly support
- <sub>2</sub> Somewhat support
- <sub>3</sub> Somewhat oppose
- <sub>4</sub> Strongly oppose
- <sub>5</sub> Don't know

**27. Carbon dioxide is the primary greenhouse gas said to be causing global warming and is produced by electric power plants and motor vehicles (e.g., cars, trucks and sport utility vehicles). Currently, carbon dioxide is not regulated as a pollutant. How much do you support or oppose the regulation of carbon dioxide as a pollutant?**

- <sub>1</sub> Strongly support
- <sub>2</sub> Somewhat support
- <sub>3</sub> Somewhat oppose
- <sub>4</sub> Strongly oppose

**28. The average new motor vehicle gets 29 miles per gallon of gas. Some people say we should increase average fuel efficiency to 33 miles per gallon, to help reduce carbon dioxide emissions. This would increase new motor vehicle prices by about \$1,000. How much do you support or oppose this idea?**

- <sub>1</sub> Strongly support
- <sub>2</sub> Somewhat support
- <sub>3</sub> Somewhat oppose
- <sub>4</sub> Strongly oppose
- <sub>5</sub> Don't know

**29. How much do you support or oppose a 60-cent per gallon gasoline tax, over and above existing gas taxes, to encourage people to drive less and thus reduce carbon dioxide emissions?**

- <sub>1</sub> Strongly support
- <sub>2</sub> Somewhat support
- <sub>3</sub> Somewhat oppose
- <sub>4</sub> Strongly oppose
- <sub>5</sub> Don't know

**30. In order to encourage people to use more fuel-efficient vehicles, some people have proposed a 5 percent "gas guzzler" tax on cars, trucks and sport utility vehicles that get less than 25 miles per gallon. This would add approximately \$1,000 to the price of a \$20,000 car. How much do you support or oppose this proposal?**

- <sub>1</sub> Strongly support
- <sub>2</sub> Somewhat support
- <sub>3</sub> Somewhat oppose
- <sub>4</sub> Strongly oppose
- <sub>5</sub> Don't know

**31. To encourage industry to be more fuel efficient, some people have proposed a business energy tax. This tax would raise the average price of most things you buy, including food and clothing, by 3 percent, or approximately \$380 per person per year. How much do you support or oppose this proposal?**

- <sub>1</sub> Strongly support
- <sub>2</sub> Somewhat support
- <sub>3</sub> Somewhat oppose
- <sub>4</sub> Strongly oppose
- <sub>5</sub> Don't know

32. The United States government provides approximately \$5 billion a year in subsidies to the fossil fuel industry (coal, oil, natural gas). Some people have proposed transferring these subsidies to the renewable energy industry (wind, solar, biomass, etc.) to develop cleaner forms of energy. This would make fossil fuels more expensive and renewable energy less expensive. How much do you support or oppose this proposal?

- <sub>1</sub> Strongly support
- <sub>2</sub> Somewhat support
- <sub>3</sub> Somewhat oppose
- <sub>4</sub> Strongly oppose
- <sub>5</sub> Don't know

**C** FOR THE NEXT FEW QUESTIONS, PLEASE CIRCLE THE NUMBER ON THE SCALE THAT BEST REPRESENTS YOUR POSITION.

33. How much do you care about the issue of global warming?

1	2	3	4	5	6
Don't care					Care deeply

34. On some issues people feel that they have all the information they need in order to form a strong opinion, while on other issues they would like to get more information before making up their mind. For global warming, where would you place yourself?

1	2	3	4	5	6
Do not need any more info		Need some more info			Need a lot more info

35. How often do you discuss global warming with your family and friends?

1	2	3	4	5	6
Rarely discuss		Occasionally discuss			Often discuss

36. People have told us that on some issues they may take a position, but know that they could change their minds pretty easily. On other issues, however, they come to a position and they stick with it, no matter what. For the issue of global warming, where would you place yourself?

1	2	3	4	5	6
Could change my mind easily					Stick with my position



**D** *IN THIS SECTION, PLEASE THINK ABOUT YOUR ATTITUDES TOWARDS SOCIETY.*

**37. Do you strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree or strongly agree with the following statements?**

	<u>Strongly Disagree</u>	<u>Somewhat Disagree</u>	<u>Somewhat Agree</u>	<u>Strongly Agree</u>
a) The future is too uncertain for a person to make serious plans.	1	2	3	4
b) I support government efforts to get rid of poverty.	1	2	3	4
c) It is just as well that life tends to sort out those who try harder from those who don't.	1	2	3	4
d) We have gone too far in pushing equal rights.	1	2	3	4
e) If a person has the get-up-and-go to acquire wealth, that person should have the right to enjoy it.	1	2	3	4
f) It doesn't make much difference if people elect one or another political candidate, for nothing will change.	1	2	3	4
g) What this world needs is a more equal distribution of wealth.	1	2	3	4
h) Government and industry can be trusted to make the right decisions about technological risks.	1	2	3	4
i) I feel that life is like a lottery.	1	2	3	4
j) Firms and institutions should be organized so everybody can influence important decisions.	1	2	3	4
k) Families need a strong authority figure.	1	2	3	4
l) The government should get out of our way.	1	2	3	4
m) I support affirmative action.	1	2	3	4
n) A person is better off if he or she doesn't trust anyone.	1	2	3	4

**38. Again, please think about your attitudes towards society.**

	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Somewhat Disagree</b>	<b>Somewhat Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
a) Children should always obey their parents.	1	2	3	4
b) I have very little control over my life.	1	2	3	4
c) People should be rewarded according to their position in society.	1	2	3	4
d) If people were treated more equally we would have fewer problems.	1	2	3	4
e) Government has no right to regulate people's personal risk-taking activities, such as smoking, mountain climbing, hang-gliding, etc.	1	2	3	4
f) It's no use worrying about public affairs; I can't do anything about them anyway.	1	2	3	4
g) People with less talent or ability should earn less.	1	2	3	4
h) Organizations need a strict line of command to be successful.	1	2	3	4
i) The world would be a more peaceful place if its wealth were divided more equally among nations.	1	2	3	4
j) Making money is the main reason for hard work.	1	2	3	4
k) When the risk is very small, it is OK for society to impose that risk on individuals without their consent.	1	2	3	4

**39. Do you believe it is possible for pollution levels to get so high that the environment cannot recover?**

- <sub>1</sub> Yes  
 <sub>2</sub> No

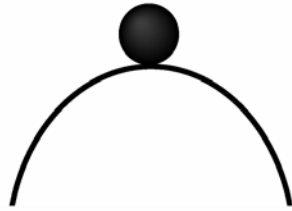
**40. What do you think is more important – protecting the environment, even if it costs jobs, or economic growth, even if it leads to environmental problems?**

- <sub>1</sub> Protecting the environment  
 <sub>2</sub> Economic growth

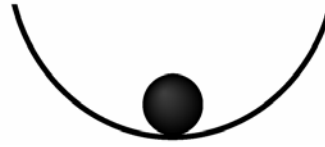
**41. When you buy things at the store, do you usually think of the impact the things you buy have on the environment?**

- <sub>1</sub> Yes  
 <sub>2</sub> No

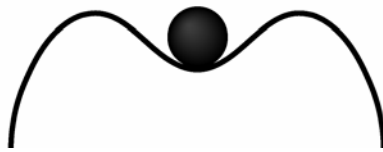
42. People disagree about how the balance, or equilibrium, of nature works. The four pictures below illustrate four different perspectives. Each picture shows a ball balanced on a line, yet each one has a different ability to withstand disturbances.



A. Nature shows a delicate balance. Small disturbances may have catastrophic results.



B. Nature is very stable. Nature will return to equilibrium even after large disturbances.



C. Nature is stable within certain limits. If disturbances are small, nature will return to equilibrium.



D. Nature is random and unpredictable. We do not know what will happen.

Which one of the four pictures best represents your understanding of how the balance of nature works? (Please write the letter of your answer below.)

Letter: \_\_\_\_\_

43. Do you strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree or strongly agree with the following statements?

	<u>Strongly Disagree</u>	<u>Somewhat Disagree</u>	<u>Somewhat Agree</u>	<u>Strongly Agree</u>
a) Humankind was created to rule over the rest of nature.	1	2	3	4
b) Humans have the right to subdue and control the rest of nature.	1	2	3	4
c) Humans have the right to alter nature to satisfy wants and desires.	1	2	3	4
d) Humans should adapt to nature rather than modify it to suit them.	1	2	3	4
e) Humans are not part of nature.	1	2	3	4
f) Humans have moral duties and obligations to other animal species.	1	2	3	4
g) Humans have moral duties and obligations to plants and trees.	1	2	3	4
h) Humans have moral duties and obligations to non-living nature (e.g., rocks, water, air).	1	2	3	4
i) Nature has value within itself regardless of any value that humans place on it.	1	2	3	4

**E** **IN ORDER TO HELP CLASSIFY OUR DATA, WE NEED SOME BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT YOU.**

**44. Are you male or female?**

- <sub>1</sub> Male
- <sub>2</sub> Female

**45. In what year were you born? \_\_\_\_\_**

**46. What is the highest level of education you have completed?**

- <sub>1</sub> Less than high school diploma
- <sub>2</sub> High school diploma/GED
- <sub>3</sub> Some college, no degree or associate's degree
- <sub>4</sub> Bachelor's degree
- <sub>5</sub> Master's degree
- <sub>6</sub> Doctorate or professional degree

**47. Are you currently employed, either full or part-time?**

- <sub>1</sub> Yes
- <sub>2</sub> No →

**a) If you are not employed, are you currently...**

- <sub>1</sub> looking for work
- <sub>2</sub> a student
- <sub>3</sub> a homemaker
- <sub>4</sub> other (*specify*) \_\_\_\_\_

**48. What is your total annual household income, from all sources, before taxes?**

- <sub>1</sub> Less than \$15,000
- <sub>2</sub> \$15,000 - \$24,999
- <sub>3</sub> \$25,000 - \$39,999
- <sub>4</sub> \$40,000 - \$69,999
- <sub>5</sub> \$70,000 - \$99,999
- <sub>6</sub> \$100,000 or more

**49. What is your marital status?**

- <sub>1</sub> Never married
- <sub>2</sub> Currently married or cohabiting as married
- <sub>3</sub> Divorced or separated
- <sub>4</sub> Widowed

**50. Are you a parent or do any children under 18 years of age live in your household?**

- <sub>1</sub> Yes
- <sub>2</sub> No

**51. What is your race or ethnicity?**

- <sub>1</sub> White/Caucasian
- <sub>2</sub> Black/African-American
- <sub>3</sub> Asian-American, Pacific Islander
- <sub>4</sub> Latino, Hispanic
- <sub>5</sub> American Indian/Native American/Alaskan Native
- <sub>6</sub> Mixed race or ethnicity (*please specify*) \_\_\_\_\_

**52. What is your main source of news? (choose one)**

- <sub>1</sub> Newspapers
- <sub>2</sub> News magazines
- <sub>3</sub> Television
- <sub>4</sub> Radio
- <sub>5</sub> World wide web
- <sub>6</sub> Friends and relatives

**53. Politically, do you think of yourself as...**

- <sub>1</sub> a Democrat
- <sub>2</sub> leaning toward the Democratic Party
- <sub>3</sub> an Independent
- <sub>4</sub> leaning toward the Republican Party
- <sub>5</sub> a Republican
- <sub>6</sub> something else (*please specify*) \_\_\_\_\_

**54. On most political issues, do you think of yourself as...**

- <sub>1</sub> Very liberal
- <sub>2</sub> Somewhat liberal
- <sub>3</sub> Moderate
- <sub>4</sub> Somewhat conservative
- <sub>5</sub> Very conservative

**55. Are you registered to vote?**

- <sub>1</sub> Yes
- <sub>2</sub> No

**56. Do you or a member of your household donate money or belong to any environmental or conservation organizations (e.g., Sierra Club, Audubon, Nature Conservancy, Greenpeace, local groups, etc.)?**

- <sub>1</sub> Yes
- <sub>2</sub> No

**57. Do you consider yourself a religious or spiritual person?**

- <sub>1</sub> Yes
- <sub>2</sub> No

**58. Are you actively involved in a religious or spiritual organization in your community?**

- <sub>1</sub> Yes
- <sub>2</sub> No

**59. How important is religious faith or spirituality in your life?**

- <sub>1</sub> Not important
- <sub>2</sub> Somewhat important
- <sub>3</sub> Very important
- <sub>4</sub> Extremely important